

(12) United States Patent Bertha et al.

(10) Patent No.: US 8,392,209 B1 (45) Date of Patent: Mar. 5, 2013

- (54) SYSTEMS, METHODS, AND APPARATUSES FOR BARCODED SERVICE REQUESTS AND RESPONSES ASSOCIATED WITH HEALTHCARE TRANSACTIONS
- (75) Inventors: Brian Bertha, Danville, CA (US);David Weinstein, Danville, CA (US)
- (73) Assignee: McKesson Specialty Arizona Inc., Scottsdale, AZ (US)

3/1997	Off et al.
4/1997	Deaton et al.
5/1997	Thornton
6/1997	Deaton et al.
	4/1997 5/1997

(Continued)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

CA	2482370 A1 3/2006	5	
WO	WO 9500569 A3 2/1995	5	
	(Continued)		

- (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 119 days.
- (21) Appl. No.: **12/814,465**
- (22) Filed: Jun. 13, 2010
- (51) Int. Cl. *G06Q 50/00* (2012.01)

- (56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,491,725	A	1/1985	Pritchard
4,674,041	A	6/1987	Lemon et al.
4,723,212	A	2/1988	Mindrum et al.
4,910,672	A	3/1990	Off et al.
5,007,641	A	4/1991	Seidman
5,080,364	A	1/1992	Seidman
5,173,851	A	12/1992	Off et al.
5,201,010	A	4/1993	Deaton et al.
5,237,620	A	8/1993	Deaton et al.
5,305,196	A	4/1994	Deaton et al.
5,327,508	A	7/1994	Deaton et al.
5,388,165	A	2/1995	Deaton et al.
5,430,644	A	7/1995	Deaton et al.
5,448,471	A	9/1995	Deaton et al.
5,588,649	A	12/1996	Blumberg et al.
5,592,560	A	1/1997	Deaton et al.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/186,246 mailed May 9, 2011.

(Continued)

Primary Examiner — Neha Patel
(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Sutherland Asbill &
Brennan LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Systems, methods, and apparatuses are provided for supporting barcoded service requests and responses. The systems, methods, and apparatuses can support receiving, from a pharmacy computer, a claim request that identifies at least a patient and a prescribed product; determining, based upon the claim request, that a service request is available, the service request indicating an opportunity for one or more services to be provided by the pharmacy to the patient; storing claim information in association with a bar code, the claim information including information from the claim request, the bar code associated with the service request; automatically directing a delivery of the service request to the pharmacy, the service request including the bar code; and receiving a response to the service request, wherein the response includes the bar code, where the bar code is utilized, at least in part, to obtain at least a portion of the claim information for documentation of the one or more provided services.

14 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets



Page 2

5 CAD ARE A C/100'	7 Destaur et al	2004/0054657 A1 3/2004 Takeyama
	Deaton et al.	2004/0073457 A1 4/2004 Kalies
	Deaton et al.	2004/0078234 A1 4/2004 Tallal, Jr. et al.
	Deaton et al.	2004/0107117 A1 6/2004 Denny
	7 Deaton et al.	2004/0111277 A1 6/2004 Pearson et al.
	Deaton et al.	2004/0117323 A1 6/2004 Mindala
	7 Deaton et al.	2004/0148198 A1 7/2004 Kalies
	3 O'Brien	2004/0153336 A1 8/2004 Virdee et al.
	3 Mayaud	2004/0220829 A1 11/2004 Baharav et al.
5,857,175 A 1/1999	Day et al.	2004/0249745 A1 12/2004 Baaren
5,892,827 A 4/1999	Beach et al.	2005/0015280 A1 $1/2005$ Gabel et al.
5,915,007 A 6/1999) Klapka	2005/0013200 A1 2/2005 Cunningham
5,926,795 A 7/1999) Williams	2005/0055010 Al $2/2005$ Cumingham $2005/0060201$ Al $3/2005$ Connely, III et al.
5,950,630 A 9/1999	Portwood et al.	2005/0000201 A1 $3/2005$ Connery, first and $2005/0086081$ A1 $4/2005$ Brock-Fisher
5,970,469 A 10/1999	Scroggie et al.	
	Giuliani et al.	2005/0090425 A1 $4/2005$ Reardan et al.
) Freeman, Jr. et al.	2005/0102169 A1 5/2005 Wilson
) Jeacock et al.	2005/0137912 A1 $6/2005$ Rao et al.
· · ·) Scroggie et al.	2005/0154627 A1 7/2005 Zuzek et al.
) Lester et al.	2005/0171815 A1 8/2005 Vanderveen
) Jermyn	2005/0187793 A1 8/2005 Myles
) Laor	2005/0197862 A1 9/2005 Paterson et al.
· · ·) Gardenswartz et al.	2005/0222875 A1 10/2005 Lordeman et al.
		2005/0222952 A1 10/2005 Garrett et al.
· · ·) Krause	2005/0240473 A1 10/2005 Ayers, Jr. et al.
) Byerly et al.	2005/0288972 A1 12/2005 Marvin et al.
6,076,069 A 6/2000		2006/0015518 A1 1/2006 Eletreby et al.
) Yamaguchi et al.	2006/0020514 A1 1/2006 Yered
	Scroggie et al.	2006/0026041 A1 2/2006 Ullman
	Pack-Harris	2006/0111941 A1 5/2006 Blom
6,202,923 B1 3/2001	Boyer et al.	2006/0149587 A1 7/2006 Hill, Sr. et al.
6,205,455 B1 3/2001	Umen	2006/0149784 A1 $7/2006$ Tholl et al.
6,240,394 B1 5/2001	Uecker	2006/0149704 Al $8/2006$ Barre et al.
6,260,758 B1 7/2001	Blumberg	2006/0104391 Al $10/2006$ Hudson et al.
6,278,979 B1 8/2001	Williams	
6,282,516 B1 8/2001	Giuliani	
	Gardenswartz et al.	2006/0259330 A1 11/2006 Schranz
	Uecker	2006/0259363 A1 11/2006 Jhetam
	Deaton et al.	2006/0271398 A1 11/2006 Belcastro
, ,	O'Brien et al.	2006/0287886 A1 12/2006 Kitazawa
	Deaton et al.	2007/0005402 A1 1/2007 Kennedy et al.
	2 Deaton et al.	2007/0050209 A1 3/2007 Yered
	2 Deaton et al.	2007/0088576 A1 4/2007 de Beus et al.
	2 Deaton et al.	2007/0124177 A1 5/2007 Engleson et al.
, , ,	2 Day et al.	2007/0136100 A1 6/2007 Daugherty et al.
6,584,448 B1 6/2003		2007/0136376 A1 6/2007 Kusakabe
	· · · ·	2007/0179957 A1 8/2007 Gibson et al.
, ,	Deaton et al.	2007/0233525 A1 10/2007 Boyle
	Ilsen et al.	2007/0233526 A1* 10/2007 Hoffman et al 705/4
	Mahar O'Brian at al	2007/0239493 A1 10/2007 Sweetland et al.
, ,	O'Brien et al.	2008/0103814 A1 5/2008 Fabius et al.
	5 Scroggie et al.	2008/0121688 A1* 5/2008 Harrop 235/375
	5 Day et al.	2008/0154643 A1 6/2008 Leon
· · ·	5 Kosinski et al.	2009/0327363 A1* 12/2009 Cullen et al 707/204
	5 Giuliani et al.	2010/0017296 A1 1/2010 Spignesi et al.
, ,	5 Alexander et al.	
, ,	7 Foote et al.	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS
· · · ·	7 Hull et al.	\mathbf{W} O \mathbf{W} O OOODTOT A 1 \mathbf{T} OOOO
	7 Scroggie et al.	WO WO 0039737 A1 7/2000
7,309,001 B2 12/200'	7 Banfield et al.	WO WO 2007025295 A2 3/2007
7,415,426 B2 8/2008	3 Williams et al.	OTHER PUBLICATIONS
7,426,480 B2 9/2008	Granger et al.	OTHERFODEICATIONS
· · · ·) Silverstein 705/3	Non-Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/186,246 mailed Sep.
	2 Ullman	
	2 Feeney et al.	1,2010. Eigen Office A stice for U.C. Appl No. $12/565$ 194 modial Ice. 21
	2 McCormick	Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/565,184 mailed Jan. 31,
	2 Morgan et al.	
	2 Judge	Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/415,144 mailed Feb. 13,
	2 Patricelli et al.	2012.
		Non Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/725 015 moiled Mar

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS	2004/0049422 A1 3/2004 Mortimer
	2004/0054657 A1 3/2004 Takeyama
5,642,485 A 6/1997 Deaton et al.	2004/0073457 A1 4/2004 Kalies
5,644,723 A 7/1997 Deaton et al.	2004/0078234 A1 4/2004 Tallal, Jr. et al.
5,649,114 A 7/1997 Deaton et al.	2004/0107117 A1 $6/2004$ Denny
5,659,469 A 8/1997 Deaton et al.	
5,675,662 A 10/1997 Deaton et al.	2004/0111277 A1 $6/2004$ Pearson et al.
5,687,322 A $11/1997$ Deaton et al.	2004/0117323 A1 6/2004 Mindala
5,832,457 A $11/1998$ O'Brien	2004/0148198 A1 7/2004 Kalies
	2004/0153336 A1 8/2004 Virdee et al.
5,845,255 A 12/1998 Mayaud	2004/0220829 A1 11/2004 Baharav et al.
5,857,175 A 1/1999 Day et al.	2004/0249745 A1 12/2004 Baaren
5,892,827 A 4/1999 Beach et al.	2005/0015280 A1 1/2005 Gabel et al.
5,915,007 A 6/1999 Klapka	2005/0033610 A1 2/2005 Cunningham
5,926,795 A 7/1999 Williams	
5,950,630 A 9/1999 Portwood et al.	2005/0060201 A1 $3/2005$ Connely, III et al.
5,970,469 A 10/1999 Scroggie et al.	2005/0086081 A1 4/2005 Brock-Fisher
5,974,399 A $10/1999$ Giuliani et al.	2005/0090425 A1
	2005/0102169 A1 5/2005 Wilson
6,012,035 A $1/2000$ Freeman, Jr. et al.	2005/0137912 A1 6/2005 Rao et al.
6,014,630 A 1/2000 Jeacock et al.	2005/0154627 A1 7/2005 Zuzek et al.
6,014,634 A 1/2000 Scroggie et al.	2005/0171815 A1 8/2005 Vanderveen
6,021,392 A 2/2000 Lester et al.	2005/0187793 A1 8/2005 Myles
6,026,370 A 2/2000 Jermyn	
6,041,309 A 3/2000 Laor	2005/0197862 A1 $9/2005$ Paterson et al.
6,055,573 A $4/2000$ Gardenswartz et al.	2005/0222875 A1 10/2005 Lordeman et al.
6,067,069 A $5/2000 Krause$	2005/0222952 A1 10/2005 Garrett et al.
	2005/0240473 A1 10/2005 Ayers, Jr. et al.
6,067,524 A $5/2000$ Byerly et al.	2005/0288972 A1 12/2005 Marvin et al.
6,076,069 A 6/2000 Laor	2006/0015518 A1 1/2006 Eletreby et al.
6,094,276 A 7/2000 Yamaguchi et al.	2006/0020514 A1 1/2006 Yered
6,185,541 B1 2/2001 Scroggie et al.	2006/0026041 A1 2/2006 Ullman
6,195,612 B1 2/2001 Pack-Harris	
6,202,923 B1 3/2001 Boyer et al.	2006/0111941 A1 5/2006 Blom
6,205,455 B1 $3/2001$ Umen	2006/0149587 A1 7/2006 Hill, Sr. et al.
	2006/0149784 A1 7/2006 Tholl et al.
6,240,394 B1 $5/2001$ Uecker	2006/0184391 A1 8/2006 Barre et al.
6,260,758 B1 7/2001 Blumberg	2006/0224415 A1 10/2006 Hudson et al.
6,278,979 B1 8/2001 Williams	2006/0229915 A1 10/2006 Kosinski et al.
6,282,516 B1 8/2001 Giuliani	2006/0259330 A1 11/2006 Schranz
6,298,330 B1 10/2001 Gardenswartz et al.	2006/0259363 A1 11/2006 Jhetam
6,304,849 B1 10/2001 Uecker	
6,307,958 B1 10/2001 Deaton et al.	2006/0271398 A1 11/2006 Belcastro
6,321,210 B1 $11/2001$ O'Brien et al.	2006/0287886 A1 12/2006 Kitazawa
	2007/0005402 A1 1/2007 Kennedy et al.
6,334,108 B1 12/2001 Deaton et al.	2007/0050209 A1 3/2007 Yered
6,351,735 B1 2/2002 Deaton et al.	2007/0088576 A1 4/2007 de Beus et al.
6,377,935 B1 4/2002 Deaton et al.	2007/0124177 A1 5/2007 Engleson et al.
6,424,949 B1 7/2002 Deaton et al.	2007/0136100 A1 $6/2007$ Daugherty et al.
6,484,146 B2 11/2002 Day et al.	
6,584,448 B1 6/2003 Laor	
6,684,195 B1 1/2004 Deaton et al.	2007/0179957 A1 $8/2007$ Gibson et al.
6,757,898 B1 $6/2004$ Ilsen et al.	2007/0233525 A1 10/2007 Boyle
6,769,228 B1 $8/2004$ Mahar	2007/0233526 A1* 10/2007 Hoffman et al 705/4
	2007/0239493 A1 10/2007 Sweetland et al.
6,795,809 B2 $9/2004$ O'Brien et al.	2008/0103814 A1 5/2008 Fabius et al.
6,885,994 B1 4/2005 Scroggie et al.	2008/0121688 A1* 5/2008 Harrop 235/375
7,024,374 B1 4/2006 Day et al.	2008/0154643 A1 6/2008 Leon
7,058,584 B2 6/2006 Kosinski et al.	2009/0327363 A1* 12/2009 Cullen et al
7,058,591 B2 6/2006 Giuliani et al.	
7,155,397 B2 12/2006 Alexander et al.	2010/0017296 A1 1/2010 Spignesi et al.
7,225,052 B2 $5/2007$ Foote et al.	EODEICNI DATENIT DOCUMENTO
7,228,285 B2 $6/2007$ Hull et al.	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS
	WO WO 0039737 A1 7/2000
7,233,913 B2 $6/2007$ Scroggie et al.	WO WO 2007025295 A2 3/2007
7,309,001 B2 12/2007 Banfield et al.	$\mathbf{HO} = \mathbf{HO} \mathbf{LOU} \mathbf{I} \mathbf{U} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{U} \mathbf{U} \mathbf{I}$
7,415,426 B2 8/2008 Williams et al.	OTHER PUBLICATIONS
7,426,480 B2 9/2008 Granger et al.	
7,720,697 B1* 5/2010 Silverstein	Non-Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/186,246 mailed Sep.
2002/0002495 A1 1/2002 Ullman	
2002/0002495 A1 $3/2002$ Feeney et al.	1, 2010.
	Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/565,184 mailed Jan. 31,
2002/0035484 A1 3/2002 McCormick	2012.
2002/0087583 A1 7/2002 Morgan et al.	Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/415,144 mailed Feb. 13,
2002/0111832 A1 8/2002 Judge	2012.
2002/0198831 A1 12/2002 Patricelli et al.	Non-Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/725-015 mailed Mar

2002/0198831 A1 12/2002 Patricelli et al. 2003/0009367 A1 1/2003 Morrison 3/2003 Jay et al. 2003/0050799 A1 3/2003 Jay et al. 2003/0050802 A1 4/2003 Gelber 2003/0069760 A1 4/2003 Liff et al. 2003/0074218 A1 4/2003 Borsand et al. 705/3 2003/0074225 A1* 7/2003 Collosi 2003/0125986 A1 2003/0149625 A1 8/2003 Leonardi et al. 8/2003 Phillips et al. 2003/0154163 A1 12/2003 Brown 2003/0229514 A2 12/2003 Algiene 2003/0229540 A1 2004/0039599 A1 2/2004 Fralic

Non-Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/725,015 mailed Mar. 19, 2012.

Non-Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/725,009 mailed Mar. 14, 2012.

Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/649,931 mailed Apr. 3, 2012.

Non-Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/414,814 mailed Aug. 18, 2011.

Non-Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/415,144 mailed Sep. 19, 2011.

Non-Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/540,938 mailed Sep. 29, 2011.

Page 3

- Non-Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/565,184 mailed Oct. 4, 2011.
- Non-Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/649,931 mailed Nov. 9, 2011.
- Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/414,814 mailed Dec. 7, 2011.
- Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/540,938 mailed Jan. 19, 2012.
- Sampson, R.J., Taking Control of Health Care Costs, Best's Review—Life Health Insurance Edition, Nov. 1983, pp. 64-66, vol. 84, Issue 7, USA.
- Anonymous, ACS to Demonstrate Electronic Health Record Solution Suite at MMIS 2007 Conference; EHR Tools Consolidate Data, Provide Light Information at the Point of Care for Medicaid Pro-

vice is Starting Trials for Online Prescription, with the Aim of Cutting Costs. Financial Times, London, Feb. 21, 2001, p. 6, London, United Kingdom.

- Anonymous, Pharmacy Industry Leaders Launch Firm to Supply Real-Time Data. PR Newswire. Jul. 30, 2001, p. 1, New York, NY, USA.
- Anonymous, Medic; On-line Goes In-House, Chain Store Age Executive, Jan. 1987, pp. 128-32. vol. 63, Issue 1, USA.
- Anonymous, TechRx Announces Successful Beta Deployment of T-Rex. PR Newswire. May 13, 2002.
- Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/725,015 mailed Oct. 11, 2012.
- Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/725,009 mailed Nov. 21, 2012.

Provide Useful Information at the Point of Care for Medicaid Providers, Payers, and Patients, PR Newswire, Aug. 13, 2007, NewYork, NY, USA.

Lamb, J., New Era of Electronic Medicine Management: E-PRE-SCRIPTIONS, Britain's Traditionally Cautious National Health SerNon-Final Office Action for U.S. Appl. No. 12/414,814 mailed Dec. 5, 2012.

* cited by examiner

U.S. Patent US 8,392,209 B1 Mar. 5, 2013 Sheet 1 of 8





FIG. 1

U.S. Patent Mar. 5, 2013 Sheet 2 of 8 US 8,392,209 B1

laims Processor Computer 106



U.S. Patent Mar. 5, 2013 Sheet 3 of 8 US 8,392,209 B1



U.S. Patent US 8,392,209 B1 Mar. 5, 2013 Sheet 4 of 8







FIG. 3

U.S. Patent Mar. 5, 2013 Sheet 5 of 8 US 8,392,209 B1





U.S. Patent US 8,392,209 B1 Mar. 5, 2013 Sheet 6 of 8



Pharmacy Intervention Program

Counseling Opportunity

! PATIENT ARRIVING SOON / ATTACH FAX TO RX !

[Patient Name] [Patient DOB / Patient Sex] [Pharmacy Name or ID]

[Prescription (Rx) Number]

Intervention:

|Product Name| First Refill Date of Rx Claim: MM/DD/YYYY Intervention Fee: \$X.00

[Product Name] First Refill Consultation

PLEASE ALERT PHARMACIST this prescription is eligible for adherence counseling through the Pharmacy Intervention Program (PIP)



Perform the following steps to complete the consult:

- Attach this fax to the will call prescription listed above.
- Perform adherence consultation using intervention guides and brand-specific 2. patient materials.
- Save this fax as a reminder for billing. 3.
- Billing—sign and fax this form to (123) 456-7890 to submit claim. 4.

I have delivered the adherence consultation described on this form.

Pharmacist Signature

Date

FIG. 5A

U.S. Patent Mar. 5, 2013 Sheet 7 of 8 US 8,392,209 B1



Pharmacy Intervention Program

Counseling Opportunity

! PATIENT ARRIVING SOON / ATTACH FAX TO RX !

Patient: John Doe DOB: MM/DD/YYYY Male Pharmacy: Joe's Pharmacy RX#: 2491912354 Intervention: [Product Name] First Refill Date of Rx Claim: DD-MM-YYYY 14:28EST Intervention Fee: \$XX.00

[Product Name] First Refill Consultation

Pharmacist: Please deliver consultation according to PIP program guidelines and answer the assessment questions below by placing an "X" as appropriate:

Patient Assessment

}	Prior to the consult, did the patient have a clear understanding of the therapeutic		
	benefits of the medication?	Yes	No
Ţ	Drive to the consult did the nation have		



FIG. 5B

U.S. Patent US 8,392,209 B1 Mar. 5, 2013 Sheet 8 of 8



Loyalty Script Co-Pay Discount Program* PATIENT ARRIVING SOON / ATTACH FAX TO RX !

*Medicare/Medicaid patients are not eligible

Patient:	Medication:
Beverly London	[Product Name]
DOB: 01/17/1970, Female	Date of Rx Claim: MM/DD/YYYY 08:16EST
Pharmacy: Acme Test Pharmacy	RX#: 8974644

Pharmacists Instructions:

- 1. Fax this *signed* form to (866) 680-4702.
- Then, submit secondary claim for Rx using:

RxBlN	610524	RxGRP	50775228
RxPCN	LOYALTY	ID	595248880



Tear off sheet below the dotted line and hand to the patient. 3.

- Enter the above data in the patient's record for the next refill. 4.
- Questions? Call the help line at 866-123-4567 (8:00 AM-8:00 PM Eastern Time M-F).

Dear Patient:

You are invited to join the [Product Name] Savings Program Enroll in the [Product Name] Savings Program and pay \$X copay.* (Maximum copay) discount is \$50)

- Good for 12 prescriptions/refills per year. Qualifying patients only; restrictions apply.
- Enrolling is easy! Just sign this enrollment form and give it to your pharmacist to process and save money on today's prescription.

Enrollment:

I wish to enroll in the [Product Name] Savings Program. I understand the eligibility terms and conditions are as follows: Valid only for qualified customers with a valid prescription for [Product Name]. No substitutions permitted. Patient must be eighteen (18) years of age or older. Not valid for prescriptions covered or paid for by Medicare (including True-Out-of-Pocket Expenses under Medicare Part D), Medicaid, VA, DOD, Tricare or any other federal or state healthcare programs, such as state pharmaceutical assistance programs. Not valid for patients who are Medicare eligible and enrolled in an employer-sponsored health plan or prescription drug benefit program for retirees (i.e., you are eligible for Medicare Part D but receive a prescription drug benefit through a former employer). Total annual savings is up to \$XXXX. Discount available on up to [maximum number] of prescriptions for [Product Name] per calendar year. A minimum patient requirement for participation in the program is an activated Program Savings Program ID number.

Patient Signature

FIG. 5C

SYSTEMS, METHODS, AND APPARATUSES FOR BARCODED SERVICE REQUESTS AND **RESPONSES ASSOCIATED WITH HEALTHCARE TRANSACTIONS**

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Aspects of the invention relate generally to barcoded service requests and responses associated with healthcare transactions.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

tion claim request, that a service request is available, the service request indicating an opportunity for one or more services to be provided by the pharmacy to the patient; store prescription claim information in association with a bar code, the prescription claim information including information from the prescription claim request, the bar code associated with the service request; automatically direct, responsive to the determination that the service request is available, a delivery of the service request to the pharmacy, the service request ¹⁰ including the bar code, where a response to the service request is received, wherein the response includes the bar code, wherein the bar code is utilized, at least in part, to obtain at least a portion of the prescription claim information for

Year over year increases in healthcare costs in the United States have outstripped general inflation for years. It has 15 become clear that to successfully produce quality health outcomes for the public at large at sustainable costs, the patient must be an active player in decision making and adapt optimal behaviors consistent with achieving those outcomes. Finding cost-effective methods to successfully engage consumers to 20 change their health-related behaviors has proven to be difficult.

Prior solutions have attempted to utilize pharmacists to counsel patients to achieve quality health outcomes. However, these prior solutions utilized solutions that are outside of 25 typical pharmacy workflows. As such, compliance by pharmacists has been minimal. Accordingly, there is an opportunity in the industry for systems, methods, and apparatuses for barcoded service requests and responses associated with healthcare transactions.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Some or all of the above needs and/or problems may be addressed by certain embodiments of the invention. Embodi-

documentation of the one or more services provided by the pharmacy to the patient.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Reference will now be made to the accompanying drawings, which are not necessarily drawn to scale, and wherein: FIG. 1 illustrates an example healthcare system for supporting barcoded service requests and responses associated with a healthcare transaction, according to an example embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 2A illustrates an example block diagram for delivering a barcoded service request based upon one or more healthcare transactions, according to an example embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 2B illustrates an alternative embodiment of the block ³⁰ diagram of FIG. **2**A, according to an example embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 3 illustrates an example flow diagram for delivering a barcoded service request based upon one or more healthcare transactions, according to an example embodiment of the invention.

ments of the invention may include systems, methods, and apparatuses for barcoded service requests and responses associated with healthcare transactions. According to an example embodiment of the invention, there is a method. The method may include determining, based at least in part on the 40 identified drug or product in the prescription claim request, that a service request is available, the service request indicating an opportunity for one or more services to be provided by the pharmacy to the patient; storing prescription claim information in association with a bar code, the prescription claim 45 information including information from the prescription claim request, the bar code associated with the service request; automatically directing, responsive to the determination that the service request is available, a delivery of the service request to the pharmacy, the service request including 50 the bar code; receiving a response to the service request, wherein the response includes the bar code, wherein the bar code is utilized, at least in part, to obtain at least a portion of the prescription claim information for documentation of the one or more services provided by the pharmacy to the patient. 55 One or more of the prior steps can be performed by one or more computers associated with a service provider. According to another example embodiment, there is a system. The system may include at least one memory for storing computer-executable instructions, and at least one processor 60 configured to access the memory. The at least one processor can also be configured to execute the computer-executable instructions to: receive a prescription claim request from a pharmacy computer associated with a pharmacy, where the prescription claim request identifies at least a patient, and a 65 prescribed drug or product for the patient; determine, based at least in part on the identified drug or product in the prescrip-

FIG. 4 illustrates an example flow diagram for processing responses to barcoded service requests, according to an example embodiment of the invention.

FIGS. 5A-5C illustrate example illustrations of service requests in accordance with example embodiments of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Embodiments of the invention now will be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which embodiments of the invention are shown. This invention may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein; rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete, and will fully convey the scope of the invention to those skilled in the art. Like numbers refer to like elements throughout.

Embodiments of the invention can provide systems, methods, and apparatuses for barcoded service requests associated with healthcare transactions. In an example embodiment of

the invention, a service request can be generated by a service provider based upon the processing of a received healthcare transaction such as a prescription claim transaction. The service request can include a bar code to facilitate later identification of the service request, as well as information in the corresponding healthcare transaction (e.g., prescription claim transaction). The barcoded service request can be delivered to a recipient, such as a pharmacist/pharmacy or other healthcare provider (e.g., doctor, nurse practitioner), although other recipients are available, including a patient or caregiver. The

3

delivery of the barcoded service request can be delivered to the recipient via facsimile or printer. However, in other example embodiments of the invention, the barcoded service request can also be delivered via many other types of electronic communications such as by e-mail or as an electronic 5 file without departing from example embodiments of the invention.

A recipient, such as a pharmacist/pharmacy or other healthcare provider, can then follow the specified directions or instructions provided by the barcoded service request. For example, the barcoded service request can direct or instruct a pharmacist/pharmacy or other healthcare provider to provide one or more services to a particular patient, according to an include counseling the patient in accordance with one or more healthcare programs such as, but not limited to, pharmacy intervention programs (PIP), medication therapy management (MTM) programs, or loyalty programs. Upon completion of providing the services to the patient, the pharmacist/ $_{20}$ pharmacy or other healthcare provider returns a copy of the barcoded service request to the service provider. The copy of the barcoded service request can be returned via facsimile, although other electronic communications can be utilized without departing from example embodiments of the inven- 25 tion. It will be appreciated that even when the copy of the barcoded service request is returned by facsimile, the service provider can receive the copy in an electronic format (e.g., a file). It will also be appreciated that in some example embodiments, the barcoded service request can also include one or 30 more data collection fields. Accordingly, the pharmacist or other healthcare provider can provide one or more values for the data collection fields prior to returning the copy of the barcoded service request to the service provider. As such, the returned copy of the barcoded service request can serve as a 35

The term "product," and its pluralized form, as used herein, is intended to refer to any good, including a drug or other substance.

System Overview

An example healthcare system 100 for supporting barcoded service requests and responses associated with a healthcare transaction will now be described illustratively with respect to FIG. 1. As shown in FIG. 1, the system 100 may include a pharmacy computer 103, a service provider computer 104, and a claims processor computer 106, which are each configured for accessing and reading associated computer-readable media having stored thereon data and/or computer-executable instructions for implementing the various methods of the invention. Generally, network devices and example embodiment of the invention. These services can $_{15}$ systems, including the one or more pharmacy computers 103, service provider computers 104, and claims processor computers 106 have hardware and/or software for transmitting and receiving data and/or computer-executable instructions over one or more communications links or networks. These network devices and systems may also include any number of processors for processing data and executing computer-executable instructions, as well as other internal and peripheral components that are well known in the art. By executing computer-executable instructions, each of the network devices may form a special purpose computer or particular machine. As used herein, the term "computer-readable medium" may describe any form of memory or memory device. As shown in FIG. 1, the one or more pharmacy computers 103, service provider computers 104, and claims processor computers 106 may be in communication with each other via a network 110, which as described below can include one or more separate or shared private and public networks, including the Internet or a publicly switched telephone network. Each of these components—the pharmacy computer 103, the

response to the delivered service request.

Upon receipt of the response, the service provider can scan the barcode to use the obtained bar code information to identify at least a portion of the healthcare transaction information that was associated with the service request. Indeed, the bar 40 code, or information associated with the bar code, may have been previously stored in conjunction with the healthcare transaction information to facilitate later retrieval of the healthcare transaction information. The obtained portion of the healthcare transaction information can be used in docu- 45 menting the one or more services provided by the pharmacist/ pharmacy or other healthcare provider to the patient. Likewise, in some example embodiments, the response can further include one or more respective values for any data collection fields. Optical mark recognition, which may 50 include optical character recognition, can be used to obtain the values for the data collection fields, and these values can be used or stored when documenting the one or more services provided by the pharmacist/pharmacy or other healthcare provider to the patient. The documentation of the one or more 55 services provided by the pharmacy to the patient can also be used for facilitating or completing patient enrollment in one or more healthcare programs. In addition to documenting services, the obtained prescription claim information can also be utilized to facilitate billing for the one or more services 60 provided to the patient by the pharmacy/pharmacist. Indeed, a pharmacy may be compensated for providing one or more services to a patient in accordance with a service request. Funding to compensate the pharmacy may be obtained from a sponsor of the service request, which may include a phar- 65 maceutical manufacturer/distributor, a health plan sponsor, an insurance company, or another healthcare provider.

service provider computer 104, the claims processor computer 106, and the network 110—will now be discussed in further detail.

First, the pharmacy computer 103 may be associated with one or more pharmacies, including a retail pharmacy or pharmacy group, according to an example embodiment of the invention. The pharmacy computer 103 may be any processor-driven device, such as a desktop computer, laptop computer, handheld computer, and the like. In addition to having processor(s) 149, the pharmacy computer 103 may further include a memory 142, input/output ("I/O") interface(s) 154, and network interface(s) 156. The memory 142 may store data files 158 and various program modules, such as an operating system ("OS") 150 and a client module 152. The memory 142 may be any computer-readable medium, coupled to the processor 149, such as RAM, ROM, and/or a removable storage device for storing data files 158 and a database management system ("DBMS") to facilitate management of data files 158 and other data stored in the memory 142 and/or stored in separate databases. The OS 150 may be, but is not limited to, Microsoft Windows[®], Apple OSXTM, Unix, or a mainframe operating system. The client module 152 may be an Internet browser or other software, including a dedicated program, for interacting with a physician/healthcare provider computer (not shown), the service provider computer 104, and/or the claims processor computer 106. For example, a user such as a pharmacist or other pharmacy employee may utilize the client module 152 to receive or retrieve an electronic prescription order from a physician/ healthcare provider computer. Likewise, the pharmacist or other pharmacy employee may also utilize the client module 152 in preparing and providing a prescription claim to the

5

service provider computer 104 for delivery to the appropriate claims processor computer 106. The pharmacy computer 103 may also utilize the client module 152 to retrieve or otherwise receive data or responses from the service provider computer 104.

Still referring to the pharmacy computer 103, the I/O interface(s) 154 may facilitate communication between the processor 149 and various I/O devices, such as a keyboard, mouse, printer, microphone, speaker, monitor, bar code readers/scanners, RFID readers, and the like. The network inter- 10 face(s) 156 may take any of a number of forms, such as a network interface card, a modem, a wireless network card, and the like. It will be appreciated that while the pharmacy computer 103 has been illustrated as a single computer or processor, the pharmacy computer 103 may be comprised of 15 a group of computers or processors, according to an example embodiment of the invention. The service provider computer 104 includes, but is not limited to, any processor-driven device that is configured for receiving, processing, and fulfilling requests from a physi- 20 cian/healthcare provider computer, the pharmacy computer 103, and/or the claims processor computer 106, relating to prescription, pharmacy, benefits, and/or claims transactions or other activities. According to an example embodiment of the invention, the service provider computer 104 may com- 25 prise, but is not limited, to one or more "switches" or "switch providers" performing routing and processing of prescription transactions between covered entities/healthcare providers, pharmacies, payors/claims processors, financial institutions, and/or other service providers. The service provider computer **104** may include a processor 126, a memory 128, input/output ("I/O") interface(s) 130, and a network interface 132. The memory 128 may be any computer-readable medium, coupled to the processor 126, such as RAM, ROM, and/or a removable storage device for 35 storing data files 134 and a database management system ("DBMS") **138** to facilitate management of data files **134** and other data stored in the memory 128 and/or stored in one or more databases 182. The memory 128 may store data files 134 and various program modules, such as an operating system 40 ("OS") 136, a database management system ("DBMS") 138, and the host module 140. The OS 136 may be, but is not limited to, Microsoft Windows®, Apple OSXTM, Unix, or a mainframe operating system. The data files **134** may also store routing tables for deter- 45 mining the destination of communications received from the pharmacy computer 103, or claims processor computer 106. The host module 140 may receive, process, and respond to requests from the respective client module 152 of the pharmacy computer 103, and may further receive, process, and 50 respond to requests from the host module 172 of the claims processor computer 106. The database 182 may be one or more databases operable for storing pharmacy data and/or information associated with determining or inferring conditions or diseases (or categories associated therewith) from 55 pharmacy data, as described herein.

6

request module 108, either alone or in conjunction with the service provider computer 104, may direct the transmission of the one or more barcoded service requests to a printer **184** or facsimile 186, which may be at or near a location of a healthcare provider (e.g., pharmacy/pharmacist). However, it 5 will be appreciated that the printer 184 or facsimile 186 may also be at another location associated with another individual or recipient (e.g., the patient) without departing from example embodiments of the invention. The transmission from the service request module 108 to the printer 184 or facsimile 186 may be accomplished via any number of suitable networks, for example, a publicly switched telephone network (PSTN), a local area network, a wide area network, a cellular network, a wireless network, the Internet, or another similar network. In addition, the service request module 108 may receive a response to the barcoded service request. In an example embodiment of the invention, the response may be a returned copy of the service request, and thus, may also include the bar code. The response may also include data values for one or more data collection fields present in the response. Accordingly, optical mark recognition can be used to obtain the bar code information as well as one or more data values for the data collection fields. The service request module 108 may be operative to store a documentation record for the one or more services provided, as indicated by the response. The documentation record, which may be stored in database 182, can include the healthcare transaction information identified from the bar code information, as well as one or more data values obtained from the data collection fields of the response. In 30 some example embodiments, the documentation can also be utilized as part of an enrollment process for one or more healthcare programs. Likewise, the obtained healthcare information can be utilized to facilitate billing for one or more services provided by the pharmacist/pharmacy to the patient. The service request module 108 may be implemented as computer-implemented instructions of the memory 128 of the service provider computer 104. Alternatively, the service request module 108 may also be implemented as computerimplemented instructions of a memory of a separate processor-based system that operates in tandem with the service provider computer 104, according to an example embodiment of the invention. It will be appreciated that while the service provider computer 104 has been illustrated as a single computer or processor, the service provider computer 104 may be comprised of a group of computers or processors, according to an example embodiment of the invention. The claims processor computer 106 may be any processordriven device, such as, but not limited to, a server computer, a mainframe computer, one or more networked computers, a desktop computer, a personal computer, a laptop computer, a mobile computer, a handheld portable computer, a digital assistant, a personal digital assistant, a digital tablet, an Internet appliance, or any other processor-based device. The claims processor computer 106 may include a processor 158, a memory 160, input/output ("I/O") interface(s) 162, and a network interface 164. The memory 160 may be any computer-readable medium, coupled to the processor 158, such as RAM, ROM, and/or a removable storage device. The memory 160 may store data files 166 and various program modules, such as an operating system ("OS") 168, a database management system ("DBMS"), and a host module 172. The OS 168 may be, but is not limited to, Microsoft Windows®, Apple OSXTM, Unix, or a mainframe operating system. The host module 172 may receive, process, and respond to requests from the client module 152 of the pharmacy computer 103, and may further receive, process, and respond to requests from the host module 140 of the service provider computer

As also illustrated in FIG. 1, the service provider computer

104 may include or otherwise be in communication with a service request module 108. The service request module 108 may include business rules, perhaps stored in a database 182, 60 for determining whether one or more service requests are relevant or applicable to a particular healthcare transaction received by the service provider computer 104. If the service requests are available, a bar code may be generated for iden-65 tifying the service request and healthcare transaction information associated with the service request. The service

7

104. According to an example embodiment of the invention, the claims processor computer **106** may be associated with benefits determination by a discount program, an insurance company, a pharmacy benefits manager (PBM), a government payor, or another third-party payor. According to an 5 alternative example embodiment of the invention, a claims processor computer **106** may also be implemented as part of a service provider computer **104**.

Still referring to the claims processor computer 106, the I/O interface(s) 162 may facilitate communication between 10 the processor 158 and various I/O devices, such as a keyboard, mouse, printer, microphone, speaker, monitor, bar code readers/scanners, RFID readers, and the like. The network interface 164 may take any of a number of forms, such as a network interface card, a modem, a wireless network 15 card, and the like. It will be appreciated that while the claims processor computer 106 has been illustrated as a single computer or processor, the claims processor computer 106 may be comprised of a group of computers or processors, according to an example embodiment of the invention. The network **110** may include any telecommunication and/ or data network, whether public, private, or a combination thereof, including a local area network, a wide area network, an intranet, an internet, the Internet, intermediate hand-held data transfer devices, a publicly switched telephone network 25 (PSTN), and/or any combination thereof and may be wired and/or wireless. The network 110 may also allow for realtime, off-line, and/or batch transactions to be transmitted between or among the pharmacy computer 103, and/or the service provider computer 104. Due to network connectivity, 30 various methodologies as described herein may be practiced in the context of distributed computing environments. It will also be appreciated that the network **110** may include a plurality of networks, each with devices such as gateways and routers for providing connectivity between or among net- 35 works **110**. Instead of or in addition to a network **110**, dedicated communication links may be used to connect the various devices in accordance with an example embodiment of the invention. For example, the service provider computer **104** may form the basis of network **110** that interconnects the 40 pharmacy computer 103 with the claims processor computer 106. Generally, each of the memories and data storage devices, such as the memories 142, 128, 160 and the database 182, and/or any other memory and data storage device, can store 45 data and information for subsequent retrieval. In this manner, the system 100 can store various received or collected information in memory or in a database associated with one or more pharmacy computers 103, service provider computers **104**, and/or claims processor computers **106**. The memories 50 and databases can be in communication with each other and/ or other databases, such as a centralized database, or other types of data storage devices. When needed, data or information stored in a memory or database may be transmitted to a centralized database capable of receiving data, information, 55 or data records from more than one database or other data storage device. In other embodiments, the databases shown can be integrated or distributed into any number of databases or other data storage devices. In one example embodiment, for security, the service provider computer 104 (or any other 60 entity) may have a dedicated connection to the database 182, as shown; though, in other embodiments, the service provider computer 104 or another entity may communicate with the database **182** via a network **110**. Suitable processors, such as the processors 149, 126, 158 65 of the pharmacy computer 103, service provider computer 104, and/or claims processor computer 106, respectively,

8

may comprise a microprocessor, an ASIC, and/or a state machine. Example processors can be those provided by Intel Corporation (Santa Clara, Calif.), AMD Corporation (Sunnyvale, Calif.), and Motorola Corporation (Schaumburg, Ill.). Such processors comprise, or may be in communication with media, for example computer-readable media, which stores instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the elements described herein. Embodiments of computer-readable media include, but are not limited to, an electronic, optical, magnetic, or other storage or transmission device capable of providing a processor with computer-readable instructions. Other examples of suitable media include, but are not limited to, a floppy disk, CD-ROM, DVD, magnetic disk, memory chip, ROM, RAM, a configured processor, all optical media, all magnetic tape or other magnetic media, or any other medium from which a computer processor can read instructions. Also, various other forms of computer-readable media may transmit or carry instructions to a computer, including a router, private or public network, or 20 other transmission device or channel, both wired and wireless. The instructions may comprise code from any computerprogramming language, including, for example, C, C++, C#, Visual Basic, Java, Python, Perl, and JavaScript. Furthermore, any of the processors may operate any operating system capable of supporting locally executed applications, client-server based applications, and/or browser or browserenabled applications. The system 100 shown in and described with respect to FIG. 1 is provided by way of example only. Numerous other operating environments, system architectures, and device configurations are possible. Other system embodiments can include fewer or greater numbers of components and may incorporate some or all of the functionality described with respect to the system components shown in FIG. 1. As an example, in one example embodiment, the service provider computer 104 (or the claims processor computer 106) may be implemented as a specialized processing machine that includes hardware and/or software for performing the methods described herein. In addition, the processor and/or processing capabilities of the service provider computer 104 and/or the service request module 108, may be implemented as part of the pharmacy computer 103, the claims processor computer 106, or any combination or portion thereof. Accordingly, embodiments of the invention should not be construed as being limited to any particular operating environment, system architecture, or device configuration. Operational Overview

FIGS. 2A and 3 illustrate a respective block diagram and flow diagram for delivering a barcoded service request based upon one or more healthcare transactions, according to an example embodiment of the invention.

Referring now to FIGS. 2A and 3, in block 302, a pharmacy computer 103 may deliver or otherwise communicate a healthcare transaction request in the form of a prescription claim request 202 to the service provider computer 104. Accordingly, the service provider computer **104** may receive the prescription claim request 202 at block 302. The prescription claim request 202 may be in accordance with a version of a National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) Telecommunication Standard, although other standards may be utilized as well. The prescription claim request 202 may include a BIN Number and/or a combination of a BIN Number and Processor Control Number (PCN) for identifying a particular claims processor computer or payor, such as the claims processor computer 106, as a destination for the prescription claim request 202. In addition, the prescription claim request 202 may also include information relating to

9

the patient, payor, prescriber, healthcare provider, and/or the prescribed or administered drug or product. As an example, the prescription claim request 202 received by the service provider computer 104 may include one or more combinations of the following information:

- Payer ID/Routing Information for each identified payor or potential payor
 - BIN Number and Processor Control Number (PCN) that designates an intended destination of the prescription claim request 202

Patient Information

Name (e.g., Patient Last Name, Patient First Name, etc.) Date of Birth of Patient

10

company, pharmacy benefits manager (PBM), government payor, or another third-party payor. Where the claims processor computer 106 is implemented as part of the service provider computer 104, the delivery of the prescription claim request 204 may be an internal delivery or intra-network delivery. However, where the claims processor computer 106 is distinct from the service provider computer 104, the delivery of the prescription claim request 204 may be an external delivery or inter-network delivery, perhaps via a network 110, 10 according to an example embodiment of the invention. The claims processor computer 106 may then adjudicate the prescription claim request 204 and generate a claim response **207**. The claim response **207** may specify a covered amount

Age of Patient Gender

Patient Address (e.g., Street Address, Zip Code, etc.) Patient Contact Information (e.g., Patient Telephone Number)

Patient ID or other identifier

Insurance/Coverage Information

- Cardholder Name (e.g., Cardholder First Name, Cardholder Last Name)
- Cardholder ID and/or other identifier (e.g., person code) Provider (e.g., Prescriber, Pharmacy) Information

Prescriber Information

- Primary Care Provider ID or other identifier (e.g., National Provider Identifier (NPI) code)
- Primary Care Provider Name (e.g., Last Name, First Name)
- Prescriber ID or other identifier (e.g., NPI code, Drug 30 Enforcement Administration (DEA) number) Prescriber Name (e.g., Last Name, First Name) Prescriber Contact Information (e.g., Telephone Number)

Pharmacy or other Healthcare Provider Information 35 from the service provider computer 104, then the delivery of

(e.g., an insured amount) and a patient-responsible amount 15 (e.g., a co-pay or coinsurance amount). Alternatively, the claim response 207 may indicate a denial of coverage for the prescription claim request 204. The claims processor computer 106 may then deliver the claim response 207, which is received by the service provider computer 104. The claim ²⁰ response **207** may also be provided to the pharmacy computer 103 as claim response 208.

At block **306**, the service provider computer **104** may also deliver a copy of the prescription claim request 202 and/or claim response 207, which comprise the prescription claim 25 transaction information, to the service request module **108** in one or more messages 206. For multiple deliveries, the service provider may have initially provided a copy of the prescription claim request 202 according to a first delivery at a first time, and then provided a copy of the claim response 207 according to a second delivery at a second time. Where the service request module 108 is part of the service provider computer 104, the delivery of the one or more messages 206 may be an internal delivery or an intra-network delivery. However, where the service request module 108 is distinct

(e.g., store name, chain identifier, etc.)

Pharmacy or other Healthcare Provider ID (e.g., NPI) code)

Claim Information

Drug or product information (e.g., National Drug Code 40 (NDC))

Prescription/Service Reference Number

Date Prescription Written

Quantity Dispensed

Number of Days Supply

Diagnosis/Condition

Pricing information for the drug or product (e.g., network price, Usual & Customary price) Date of Service.

It is appreciated that the aforementioned information is 50 provided for illustrative purposes, and that any number of fields can be included in a prescription claim request 202 as desired or required. Moreover, one or more of the aforementioned fields may be stored locally by the service provider computer 104, such as in a database 182, and be retrieved 55 based on a unique identifier (or combination of information) transmitted in the prescription claim request 202. At block 304, the service provider computer 104 may facilitate adjudication of the prescription claim request 202 with a claims processor computer 106. To do so, the service 60 provider computer 104 may determine the destination claims processor computer 106 based upon a BIN/PCN included with the prescription claim request 202. The service provider computer 104 may then route or deliver a copy of prescription claim request 202 to the destination claims processor com- 65 puter 106 as prescription claim request 204 for coverage or benefits determination by a discount program, insurance

the one or more messages 206 may be an external delivery or inter-network delivery, perhaps via a network 110, according to an example embodiment of the invention.

Still referring to block 306, the service request module 108 may parse or examine the copy of the prescription claim request 202 and/or claim response 207 received in the one or more messages 206 to obtain transaction information for use in determining availability of one or more service requests for delivery. The information that may be obtained from the 45 prescription claim request 202 and/or claim response 207 may include an identification of the prescribed drug/product (e.g., a drug or product identifier such as an NDC), the patient, the pharmacy, or an indication of whether the prescription claim request 204 was approved or denied for coverage. At block 308, the service request module 108 may determine whether one or more service requests may be available based upon the information obtained from the prescription claim request transaction, either alone or in conjunction with other information such as past prescription claim transaction history for patients. Different business rules may be available at block **308** depending upon the qualification criteria of the service request. Examples of these business rules may include one or more combinations of the following: Whether the patient is qualified based upon patient information included in or derived from patient information. For example, a service request may be available for patients of a particular age (or within an age range), gender, location (e.g., by city, state, or zip code). Whether the prescribed drug or product (e.g., by NDC) identified in the current prescription claim transaction is a qualified drug or product. As an example, a pharmaceutical manufacturer or other healthcare provider may

11

sponsor one or more service requests for certain ones of its drugs or products. As such, a service request may be available if the prescription claim information indicates an NDC of a qualified drug or product.

Whether the patient has (or has not) taken one or more drugs or products, either concurrently or previously. Indeed, the business rules may determine, based upon stored patient transaction history (e.g., previously adjudicated prescription claim transactions) in database **182**, whether the patient has (or has not) taken one or more drugs or products, or classes of drugs or products within a predetermined time period (e.g., past 3 months, 6 months, etc.).

12

mining how any available service request may be delivered to the printer 184 or facsimile 186. For example, a fax number may be provided if one or more service requests are to be delivered by facsimile 186. Likewise, a printer ID (e.g., IP Address, MAC ID, or network address) that identifies a particular printer 184 may be provided if the one or more available service requests are to be delivered over a network (e.g., wireless or cellular network) to the printer 186, either directly or via pharmacy computer 103. Many other variations of the eligible provider list are available without departing from example embodiments of the invention. For example, if the recipient is not a pharmacy or pharmacist, then Table I can include entries for other recipients such as for patients (e.g., based upon Cardholder ID), doctors (e.g., by Provider ID), or 15 other healthcare providers. If block **308** determines that one or more service requests are available, then processing may proceed to block 310. At block **310**, the service request module may generate a bar code, which may be utilized to identify a particular available service request, which may indicate one or more opportunities for services for the patient. At block **312**, the bar code generated in block 310, or information associated with the bar code, may likewise be stored, perhaps in a record of database 182, in association with the claim transaction information that was received in a message 206. As such, the bar code, or information associated with the bar code, may likewise be used to identify the corresponding prescription claim transaction information, perhaps when one or more services have been provided by the pharmacy to the patient, or for billing purposes associated with services provided by the pharmacy or patient. At block **314**, one or more available service requests may be coded with the bar code generated at block **310**. In an example embodiment of the invention, block **314** may utilize a template for one or more service requests, where the template provides a preferred formatting for the service requests and has one or more predefined locations for the bar code. The template may likewise include one or more sections for inclusion of one or more data collection fields. These data collection fields may be used to request healthcare data values from a recipient to facilitate completion or documentation of one or more of the requested services. For example, the data collection fields may be used to assess patient understanding during a consultation, or obtain healthcare information (e.g., conditions, smoking status, etc.) from the patient. It will be appreciated that many other variations of the service request may be available without departing from example embodiments of the invention. According to an example embodiment of the invention, the service requests may be sponsored or otherwise originated by a healthcare provider, a pharmacy, a pharmaceutical manufacturer/distributor, a service provider, or yet another entity. It will be appreciated that the sponsors of the service request may pay a fee to a service provider that promotes or distributes the service request, according to an 55 example embodiment of the invention. Likewise, the service provider may pay a fee to a pharmacy or other recipient (e.g.,

- a. A first example is whether the patient is (or is not) "New to Therapy" for the particular drug or product (or class of drug or product) identified in the current prescription claim transaction. As an example, the business rules may determine, based upon stored patient transaction history in database 182, whether the patient has taken the same drug or product (as identified in the current prescription claim transaction), or same class of the drug or product, within a predetermined period of time (e.g., past 3 months, 6 months, etc.). A service request may be available for a patient who is new to therapy for a particular drug or product. However, another service request may be available for those not new to therapy as well.
 b. A second example is whether the patient is (or is not)
- utilizing another drug or product (or class of drug or $_{30}$ product) than that identified in the current prescription claim transaction. As an example, the business rules may determine, based upon stored patient transaction history in database 182, whether the patient has taken another drug or product (or class of drug or 35 product) within a predetermined period of time (e.g., past 3 months, 6 months, etc.). A service request may be available for a patient that has (or has not) taken one or more other drugs. Whether the prescription claim request was denied cover- $_{40}$ age by the claims processor computer. A denied prescription claim request may result in a service request not being made available. Whether the pharmacy identified in the prescription claim transaction is a qualified pharmacy. A service request 45 may be available for qualified pharmacies that wish to receive service requests. As an example, a qualified pharmacy can be determined by matching an NPI number or other Pharmacy Identification Number in the current prescription claim request transaction to corresponding information in an eligible pharmacy list, as illustrated by Table I below, which may represent one or more records stored in database 182.

TABLE I

Pharmacy Identification Information (e.g., NPI or DEA)	Pharmacy Contact Information (e.g., address, phone number)	Delivery Type	Destination ID
NPI # 1	Address & Phone	Facsimile	Fax Number
NPI # 2	Number Address & Phone Number	Printer	Printer ID

doctor) for completing one or more services requested by the service request, according to an example embodiment of the invention.

At block 316, the service request module 108 can deliver a response 209 to the service provider computer 104, where the response includes the one or more barcoded service requests. The service provider computer 104 may then deliver or direct the delivery of a message 210 with the barcoded service
request to the printer 184 or facsimile 186. In an example embodiment of the invention, the service provider computer 104 may direct the delivery of the message 210 with the

As shown in Table I, the illustrative eligible pharmacy list may provide a Delivery Type and/or Destination ID for deter-

13

barcoded service request to the printer **184** or facsimile **186** via one or more networks, including the Internet, a cellular network, or other wireless network. Another entity (e.g., associated with a patient information exchange) may be utilized by the service provider computer **104** to deliver the message **5 210** to the printer **184** or facsimile **186**.

As an example, the message 210 having the barcoded service request may be delivered by the service provider computer 104 directly to the printer 184 or facsimile 186 without first being received by the pharmacy computer 103. According to another example, the message 210 having the available barcoded service request may be delivered from the service provider computer 104 to the pharmacy computer 103, which in turn may deliver the message 210 having the available service request to the printer 184 or facsimile 186. In an 15 optional example embodiment of the invention, the message 210 may also provide a notification to the pharmacy computer 103 that a service request may be available, perhaps at the printer 184 or facsimile 186. Having received the barcoded service request, the pharma-20 cist/pharmacy or other healthcare provider may then perform one or more of the requested services, which may include counseling services in accordance with one or more healthcare programs. Examples of these counseling services may include, but are not limited to, one or more of:

14

cessors. However, service provider computer 104b may have a data processing arrangement with service provider computer 104a. Under the data processing agreement, the service provider computer 104a may be permitted to utilize or offer services of the service provider computer 104b, including the business rules described above and the service request module 108. Accordingly, the services of the service provider computer 104b, including the service request module 108, may be available to the pharmacy computer 103 via the service provider computers 104a and 104b.

FIG. 5A illustrates an example service request 505 that may be delivered to a recipient via a printer 184 or facsimile 186 in accordance with block 316 of FIG. 3, according to an example embodiment of the invention. As shown in FIG. 5A, the example service request 505 may indicate an opportunity for counseling services to be provided by a pharmacy/pharmacist or other healthcare provider to a patient in accordance with a pharmacy intervention program (PIP). In particular, the example service request may provide the steps that a pharmacist should take to complete a consultation with a patient, including performing adherence consultation using intervention guides and brand-specific patient materials. The example service request 505 may also include data collection fields in the form of a pharmacist signature field and a date 25 field for completion when a pharmacist has delivered the adherence consultation to the patient. It will be appreciated that while FIG. 5A illustrates a counseling opportunity in accordance with a PIP, it can likewise be generalized for counseling opportunities for other healthcare programs, including medication therapy management (MTM) programs or condition/disease management programs. FIG. 5B illustrates another example service request 525 in accordance with an example embodiment of the invention. However, in addition to indicating an opportunity for counseling services, the example service request 525 may include

- Performing a comprehensive medication review to identify, resolve and prevent medication-related problems, including adverse drug events with the prescribed drug or product to be utilized;
- Motivating a patient to become more adherent to medica- 30 tion therapy;

Offering a patient advice and actions to support lower out of pocket cost choices under a patient's health benefit; Closing a gap in care by adding a medication to the patient's regimen in accordance with clinical guidelines; 35 Enrolling a patient in a medication copayment savings program;

- Enrolling a patient in a subscription service delivery via mobile (e.g., cell phone) messaging;
- Providing verbal or printed education and training 40 designed to enhance patient understanding and appropriate use of the prescribed product, as well as to enhance patient understanding of benefits and risks of the prescribed drug or product;
- Obtaining necessary assessments of the patient's health 45 status;

Formulating a product treatment plan;

- Providing an updated Personal Medication Record (PMR) and Medication Action Plan (MAP) to each patient following each consultation, which may be provided in a 50 data collection field of the barcoded service request;
 Providing information, support services, and resources designed to enhance patient adherence for utilization of the prescribed product;
- Documenting the care delivered; 55 Communicating essential information to the patient's primary care providers; and/or

one or more patient assessment data collection fields. As an example, the patient assessment data collection fields may relate to one or more of the following: Patient Condition or Health Status

a. Other drugs or products taken by patient

- b. Identification of patient diseases or conditions
- c. Whether the patient smokes or uses tobacco
 Patient understanding regarding the prescribed drug or
 product
 - a. Whether the doctor informed the patient how to take the prescribed drug or product in accordance with guidelines
 - b. Whether the patient had a clear understanding of the benefits/risks of the drug or product prior to the consultation
- c. To what extent the patient found the consultation with the pharmacist beneficial (e.g., rate from 1 to 10) Patient Preferences
 - a. Whether the patient believes that a reminder system would help improve his/her adherence
 - b. If the patient wishes to receive one or more reminders, the preferred channel of communication (e.g., inter-

Referring the patient to an appropriate healthcare provider if necessary.

FIG. 2B illustrates a variation of the block diagram of FIG. 60 2A. As shown by FIG. 2B, the service provider computer 104 may be comprised of two or more distinct service provider computers 104*a* and 104*b* that are in communication with each other. Service provider computer 104*a* may be operative with the pharmacy computer 103 and/or claims processor 65 computer 106 while service provider computer 104*b* may be operative with other pharmacy computers and/or claims pro-

active voice response (IVR), email, text message, letter) along with contact information (e.g., telephone number, email address, mailing address).
It will be appreciated that the data collection fields described above are for illustration purposes, and that many variations are available without departing from example embodiments of the invention.

FIG. 5C illustrates another example service request 535 in accordance with an example embodiment of the invention. As shown in FIG. 5C, the example service request 535 may

15

indicate an opportunity for the pharmacy/pharmacist or other healthcare provider to facilitate enrollment of the patient in one or more loyalty programs, including co-pay discount programs. For example, the service request 535 may include a Loyalty ID assigned to a patient for subsequent use. The 5 return of the service request 535 may confirm patient enrollment in the one or more loyalty programs, as well as support any optional billing for the services provided by the pharmacist/pharmacy. However, it will be appreciated that patient enrollments can be facilitated for a variety of other healthcare 10 programs without departing from example embodiments of the invention.

FIG. 4 illustrates an example flow diagram for processing responses to barcoded service requests, according to an example embodiment of the invention. At block 402, a phar-15 macist or other healthcare provider may have provided the one or more services, including consultation services, to the patient in accordance with the received barcoded service request. As such, the pharmacist or other healthcare provider may have filled in any data collection fields on the barcoded 20 service request. The pharmacist or other healthcare provider returns a copy of the barcoded service request to the service provider. The copy of the barcoded service request can be returned via facsimile, although other electronic communications can be utilized without departing from example 25 embodiments of the invention. It will be appreciated that even when the copy of the barcoded service request is returned by facsimile, the service provider can receive the copy in an electronic format (e.g., a file). The returned copy of the barcoded service request can serve as a response to the delivered 30 service request. This response may be provided to the service provider computer 104 and/or service request module 108 for further processing at block 404. At block 404, the service request module 108 and/or seroptical mark recognition of the bar code in the response to obtain the corresponding bar code information. Block 406 can then determine whether any data collection fields are included with the response. If there are one or more data collection fields, then processing may proceed to block 408, 40 where optical mark recognition, which may include optical character recognition (OCR), can be used to obtain the values from the data collection fields. At block **410**, the bar code information can be used to identify at least a portion of the previously stored prescription 45 transaction information that was associated with the service request. Indeed, the bar code, or information associated with the bar code, may have been previously stored, perhaps in a record in database 182, in conjunction with the prescription transaction information to facilitate later retrieval of the pre- 50 scription claim information. At block **412**, the obtained portion of the prescription transaction information, as well as any obtained values from the data collection fields, can be used in documenting the one or more services provided by the pharmacy to the patient. Likewise, the documentation of the one or 55 more services provided by the pharmacy to the patient can also be used for patient enrollment, either in full or in part, in one or more healthcare programs. For purposes of documentation, one or more of the following example information may be stored in a documentation record: Patient Identification Information (Name, Cardholder ID) Patient Contact Information (Address, Email Address, etc.)

16

It will be appreciated that the above information for the example documentation record has been provided for illustrative purposes only. Accordingly, other information from the prescription claim transaction information, as well as from the response to the barcoded service request, can be included in an example documentation record without departing from example embodiments of the invention.

In addition to documenting services, at block 414, the obtained prescription claim information can also be utilized to facilitate billing for the one or more services provided to the patient by the pharmacy. In an example embodiment of the invention, the billing claim request may be an NCPDP claim request as similarly described herein. As such, the claim request may include a BIN/PCN for a destination claims processor (e.g., provided by service provider computer 104 or claims processor computer 106) for processing the reimbursement for the provided services. The claim request may also indicate the date of service that the services were provided, as well as the pharmacy that provided the services. Upon successful adjudication of the claim request, the pharmacy may be entitled to payment of an amount for providing the requested services. The aggregated payment amounts may be paid to the pharmacy on a periodic basis, according to an example embodiment of the invention. It will be appreciated that while example embodiments of the invention have illustrated a bar code in a more traditional format, other example embodiments of a bar code may comprise variations of formats of bar codes. For example, bar codes may be provided in a distributed format across a page. Likewise, the bar codes may be provided in a non-traditional graphical format involving various shading or graphical characters or designs without departing from example embodiments of the invention. The invention is described above with reference to block vice provider computer 104 can scan or otherwise perform 35 and flow diagrams of systems, methods, apparatuses, and/or computer program products according to example embodiments of the invention. It will be understood that one or more blocks of the block diagrams and flow diagrams, and combinations of blocks in the block diagrams and flow diagrams, respectively, can be implemented by computer-executable program instructions. Likewise, some blocks of the block diagrams and flow diagrams may not necessarily need to be performed in the order presented, or may not necessarily need to be performed at all, according to some embodiments of the invention. These computer-executable program instructions may be loaded onto a general purpose computer, a special-purpose computer, a processor, or other programmable data processing apparatus to produce a particular machine, such that the instructions that execute on the computer, processor, or other programmable data processing apparatus create means for implementing one or more functions specified in the flowchart block or blocks. These computer program instructions may also be stored in a computer-readable memory that can direct a computer or other programmable data processing apparatus to function in a particular manner, such that the instructions stored in the computer-readable memory produce an article of manufacture including instruction means that implement one or more functions specified in the flow 60 diagram block or blocks. As an example, embodiments of the invention may provide for a computer program product, comprising a computer-usable medium having a computer-readable program code or program instructions embodied therein, said computer-readable program code adapted to be executed 65 to implement one or more functions specified in the flow diagram block or blocks. The computer program instructions may also be loaded onto a computer or other programmable

Pharmacy/Pharmacist Providing Requested Services to Patient

Date of Provided Services Values from Data Collection Fields.

30

17

data processing apparatus to cause a series of operational elements or steps to be performed on the computer or other programmable apparatus to produce a computer-implemented process such that the instructions that execute on the computer or other programmable apparatus provide elements 5 or steps for implementing the functions specified in the flow diagram block or blocks.

Accordingly, blocks of the block diagrams and flow diagrams support combinations of means for performing the specified functions, combinations of elements or steps for 10 performing the specified functions and program instruction means for performing the specified functions. It will also be understood that each block of the block diagrams and flow diagrams, and combinations of blocks in the block diagrams and flow diagrams, can be implemented by special-purpose, 15 hardware-based computer systems that perform the specified functions, elements or steps, or combinations of special purpose hardware and computer instructions. Many modifications and other embodiments of the invention set forth herein will be apparent having the benefit of the 20 teachings presented in the foregoing descriptions and the associated drawings. Therefore, it is to be understood that the invention is not to be limited to the specific embodiments disclosed and that modifications and other embodiments are intended to be included within the scope of the appended 25 claims. Although specific terms are employed herein, they are used in a generic and descriptive sense only and not for purposes of limitation.

18

tion, documentation information relating to the provision of the one or more services to the patient,
wherein the documentation information comprises at least one documentation record that identifies the one or more services provided to the patient, the patient, the prescribed drug or product, and the one or more values associated with the one or more data collection fields.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein determining that the service request is available comprises determining that the service request is available based at least in part on at least one of: (i) past prescription claim transaction history associated with the patient, (ii) an age of the patient, (iii) a gender of the patient, (iv) a location associated with the prescription claim request.

That which is claimed:

1. A method, comprising:

receiving, by a service provider system comprising one or more computers, a prescription claim request from a pharmacy computer associated with a pharmacy, patient and a drug or product prescribed for the patient; determining, by the service provider system and based at least in part on the drug or product identified in the prescription claim request, that a service request is available, wherein the service request indicates an opportu- 40 nity for one or more services to be provided to the patient and comprises one or more data collection fields, and wherein the one or more services comprise counseling of the patient in accordance with one or more healthcare programs; 45 associating, by the service provider system, a bar code with the service request;

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the response is a returned copy of the delivered service request.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more values are identified by utilizing optical mark recognition.

5. The method of claim **1**, wherein the one or more healthcare programs comprise at least one of: a pharmacy intervention program, a medication therapy management (MTM) program, or a loyalty program.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising:obtaining, by the service provider system and based at least in part on the bar code included in the response, at least a portion of the prescription claim information associated with the bar code in order to facilitate billing for the one or more services provided to the patient.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising: utilizing, by the service provider system, the documentation information for patient enrollment in one or more additional healthcare programs.

pharmacy computer associated with a pharmacy, 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the service request is wherein the prescription claim request identifies a 35 sponsored by a pharmaceutical manufacturer for the pre-

storing, by the service provider system, prescription claim information in association with the bar code, wherein the prescription claim information comprises information 50 included in the prescription claim request; directing, by the service provider system, a delivery of the service request and the associated bar code to the pharmacy;

receiving, by the service provider system, a response to the 55 service request, wherein the response includes the bar code, and wherein the response comprises one or more values associated with the one or more data collection fields;

scribed drug or product.

- 9. A system, comprising:
- at least one memory storing computer-executable instructions; and
- at least one processor configured to access the at least one memory and to execute the computer-executable instructions to:

receive a prescription claim request from a pharmacy computer associated with a pharmacy, wherein the prescription claim request identifies a patient and a drug or product prescribed for the patient;

determine, based at least in part on the drug or product identified in the prescription claim request, that a service request is available, wherein the service request indicates an opportunity for one or more services to be provided to the patient and comprises one or more data collection fields, and wherein the one or more services comprise counseling of the patient in accordance with one or more healthcare programs; associate a bar code with the service request; store prescription claim information in association with the bar code, wherein the prescription claim information comprises information included in the prescription claim request; direct a delivery of the service request and the associated bar code to the pharmacy; facilitate receipt of a response to the service request, wherein the response includes the bar code, and wherein the response comprises one or more values associated with the one or more data collection fields; identify the one or more values associated with the one or more data collection fields;

identifying, by the service provider system, the one or more 60 values associated with the one or more data collection fields;

retrieving, by the service provider system, at least a portion of the prescription claim information based at least in part on the bar code; and 65 generating, by the service provider system and based at

least in part on the retrieved prescription claim informa-

19

retrieve at least a portion of the prescription claim information based at least in part on the bar code; and generate documentation information relating to the provision of the one or more services to the patient based at least in part on the retrieved prescription claim 5 information,

- wherein the documentation information comprises at least one documentation record that identifies the one or more services provided to the patient, the patient, the prescribed drug or product, and the one or more 10 values associated with the one or more data collection fields.
- 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the service request is

20

11. The system of claim 9, wherein the response is a returned copy of the delivered service request.

12. The system of claim 9, wherein the at least one processor is further configured to execute the computer-executable instructions to:

retrieve, based at least in part on the bar code included in the response, at least a portion of the prescription claim information associated with the bar code in order to facilitate billing for the one or more services provided to the patient.

13. The system of claim 9, wherein the one or more values are identified by utilizing optical mark recognition.

14. The system of claim 9, wherein the one or more health-

determined to be available based at least in part on at least one of: (i) past prescription claim transaction history associated 15 with the patient, (ii) an age of the patient, (iii) a gender of the patient, (iv) a location associated with the patient, or (v) the pharmacy associated with the prescription claim request.

care programs comprise at least one of: a pharmacy intervention program, a medication therapy management (MTM) program, or a loyalty program.

* * * * *